

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6189**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1092

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 9, 2012

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Johnson Superior Court Judge.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Burton

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Sen. Bray

**BILL STATUS:** CR Adopted - 2<sup>nd</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** ☒ **GENERAL**  
☐ **DEDICATED**  
☐ **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill adds a fourth judge to the Johnson Superior Court as of January 1, 2015.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2012.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** *Summary* – Additional state expenditures are estimated to be \$83,055 beginning in FY 2015 and increasing to \$166,109 for each subsequent year, depending on salary increases.

Johnson Superior Court #4					
Effective Date	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
1-Jan-2015			\$83,055	\$166,109	\$166,109

**Background Information-**

The salaries of circuit and superior court judges can be adjusted each year by one of two methods:

- The General Assembly can increase the amount specified in statute.
- If the General Assembly does not increase the salary of judges by a nominal amount, then under IC 33-38-5-8.1, salaries of judicial officers can be adjusted by the amount that executive staff salaries in the same salary level are increased and the Chief Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court approves the increase.

State expenditures associated with this new judge also depend on the costs of fringe benefits for state employees. While most of the benefits are based on a percentage of the salaries of the employee, the costs of medical insurance for the persons filing these new positions will depend on future decisions of the executive branch. The extent to which the state would pass along any increase in health insurance costs to employees is unknown.

The following table shows estimates of the total compensation (base salary and fringe benefits) of judges in November 2011. Future salary increases will depend on legislative or administrative actions (see IC 33-38-5-8.1).

<b>Salaries and Benefits for Judges (FY 2011)</b>	
<b><u>Benefits</u></b>	<b><u>Judges</u></b>
Salary	\$127,280
Life Insurance	\$362
Indiana Judicial Conference	\$1,000
Social Security	\$9,737
Retirement	\$11,837
Disability Insurance	\$2,902
Health, Dental, and Vision (blended rate)	\$12,991
Total Cost Per Judicial Officer	<u>\$166,109</u>

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** Johnson County may need to hire additional support staff for this new court.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Division of State Court Administration; Indiana Judicial Conference.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Johnson County.

**Information Sources:** Division of State Court Administration.

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